

work, but also through his incredible ability to raise funds for much needed improvements. Prior to announcing his retirement, Gary announced that he had, at no cost, procured a \$30,000 file management system for the Sheriff's Office. He was responsible for getting a loan that enabled the county to install a 911 system, and subsequently procured an additional \$50,000 grant to upgrade the system. In addition, he was the chairman of the committee that obtained \$3 million in grants to upgrade the County Courthouse.

As sheriff, Gary did a marvelous job of walking the fine-line that all law enforcement officers must walk; as both a member and protector of the community. He will be sorely missed by each and every person in the community, but his marvelous contributions will always remain.

Mr. Speaker, as a former law enforcement officer, I am well aware of the dangers and hazards our peace officers face today. Gary Cure has dedicated his life to serving and protecting his fellow citizens, working long hours, weekends, and holidays to guarantee their safety and their freedoms, and it is with a great deal of pride and respect that I bring his career to the attention of this body of Congress. Sheriff Gary Cure deserves the thanks of a grateful nation for all of his hard work, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

EARTH DAY 2002

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the thirty-second annual Earth Day, a global holiday that acknowledges and emphasizes the importance of a clean, healthy, and safe world. This spring observation provides the people of our nation and those across the globe the opportunity to renew our dedication to the protection and preservation of our environment. We have a shared responsibility to conserve our diverse natural resources, and Earth Day allows us to demonstrate our commitment to the environment.

While we have made significant progress since the first Earth Day celebration in 1970, we must continue our efforts to improve environmental quality. The Earth Day activities heighten awareness to the positive actions we can take to improve our environment, both locally and globally. The annual observance allows us the opportunity to applaud our progress, but more importantly, it allows us to renew our commitment to the continuing environmental challenges facing our planet.

I would like to pay special tribute to my many constituents who are so active in their support of environmental causes. This is especially true during this month, with activities and programs to mark Earth Day in Takoma Park, Glen Echo, Potomac, Silver Spring, and throughout the region.

I consider environmental protection to be a national priority. I pledge to work with my colleagues in Congress to ensure the preservation of our natural resources and the protection of the public health. And on Earth Week, as we also mark the birthday of William

Shakespeare, we recall his words, "to nature none more bound." We must preserve and protect this treasure for future generations. This year, as we celebrate Earth Day 2002, let us reaffirm our commitment to a cleaner world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILLIAM L. JENKINS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Mr. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, I was not present to cast my votes on rollcall Nos. 93, 94, and 95 on April 16, 2002. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall 93, 94, and 95.

ON THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, as terrorist attacks and homicide bombings continue to ravage Israel and her citizens, I call on the Administration to express its unqualified support for the only democracy in the Middle East, and our most loyal supporter at the United Nations.

Two weeks ago, I stood with members of the United Jewish Federation of Northeastern New York and Rabbis from across the Capital Region of New York State, and recounted the horrible story of a March terrorist attack that ripped through the heart of an Albany family—by stealing the life of Avia Malka, a nine-month old infant visiting Netanya, Israel on the joyous occasion of a family wedding. An armed homicide bomber walked into the lobby of the family's hotel, began shooting, and then detonated his device. The infant Avia was shot in the head, struck by shrapnel, and killed. Her father remains in the hospital and still cannot walk.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply disappointed with the contradictory statements made by our President in recent weeks, and I totally disagree with our vote at the U.N. asking Israel to retreat from its pursuit of Palestinian terrorists. For the President to embrace such a policy is completely contradictory to the principles of our own international war against terrorism.

In 1947, the United Nations General Assembly recommended partitioning the British mandate called Palestine into two states, a 5,500 square-mile Jewish state, and a 4,500 square-mile Arab state, and a "corpus separatum" international zone around the holy city of Jerusalem.

Jews accepted the partition plan but the Arabs did not. Israel unilaterally declared its independence in May 1948, and the Arab states attacked the new state. Therefore, the Palestinians could have had their own state in 1947, but rejected it.

In 2000, former Israeli Prime Minister Barak offered a peace agreement, which included not only further land transfers, but also nearly all that Chairman Arafat requested—and Arafat and the Palestinians rejected that offer, too.

In addition, the first three wars against Israel (1948, 1956, and 1967) all occurred when the

West Bank was in Arab hands. On January 1, 1965, Fatah, the main branch of Arafat's organization, launched the first terrorist attack on Israel—all within the 1967 borders.

Last year, Faisal Hussein, a "moderate" within Arafat's leadership, offered the following response when asked whether the Palestinian goal is still the elimination of the State of Israel: "If you are asking me as a Pan-Arab nationalist what are the Palestinian borders . . . I will immediately reply, 'From the river Jordan to the Mediterranean sea.'"

Mr. Speaker, arguing that 'returning' these lands would ensure peace is simply ignoring history!

Israeli citizens have lived with terrorism since the founding of their country in 1948, and have had to fight five wars just to survive. It is past time for all civilized countries to support the right of Israel to exist, and to denounce in unambiguous terms the terrorists who block the road toward peace in the region.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH MOORE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I pay tribute today to Elizabeth Moore, an incredible woman who recently passed away, but whose dedication to the people and animals in her community was both extraordinary and inspirational. Elizabeth selflessly gave her time and energy to her community through her intense love of all living creatures, and was a woman of unquestioned integrity and of unparalleled morality. She will be sorely missed by each and every person whose life she touched, and as her family mourns her loss, I believe it is appropriate to remember Elizabeth and pay tribute to her for her incredible contributions to her city, and her state.

Elizabeth and her husband John first came to Colorado's San Luis Valley in 1995 after riding on the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad. They decided to make the beautiful valley their home, and immediately embarked upon a mission to make it a better place for all to live—even the animals. After arriving in the San Luis Valley, Elizabeth served as the President of the Humane League, dedicating her time to organizing fundraisers for spay and neuter clinics and finding homes for stray cats and dogs. She had a strong conviction that the best way to help the plight of animals in the community was to control the population by spaying and neutering. Her efforts were critical in procuring funds from the Max Fund to assist with low-cost spay/neuter clinics in the community. In addition, she loved the outdoors, and had climbed most of Colorado's highest peaks, inspiring her husband to take up the sport as well. Elizabeth's extraordinary selflessness and dedication to all living things will be sorely missed by everyone that knew her, and by all that benefited from her incredible deeds.

Mr. Speaker, we are all terribly saddened by the loss of Elizabeth Moore, but take comfort in the knowledge that our grief is overshadowed only by the legacy of courage, selflessness and love that she left with all of us.